Compensation to the Bhopal Gas tragedy victims

*19. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a settlement was arrived at between the management of the Union Carbide Corporation and private American lawyers representing the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy with regard to compensation to be paid to the victims;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof an dwhat is the reaction of the Government of India thereto; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to recover the compensation from the Union Carbide?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) According to the available information, no such settlement has either been arrived at; nor filed with with or approved by the court.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government is vigorously pursuing the case currently pending before the U.S. court.

Industrially backward Districts in Tamil Nadu

*20. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the list of districts identified so far as industrially backward in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of incentives offered as on date for promoting industries in that State; and

(c) whether public sector undertakings are proposed to be located in such backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c) Dharmapur, Kanyakumari, Madurai, North Arcot, Ramanathapuram, South Arcot, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli and Pudukottai districts have been identified as industrially backward districts in Tamil Nadu. In order to encourage entrepreneurs to set up industries in these districts, a number of incentives/concessions like Centre Investment Subsidy, Concessional Finance, priority in the grant of industrial licences/DGTD Registrations, facility for supply of machinery on hire purchase to small scale units, exemption from income-tax etc. are provided to them.

Under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme, State Governments/Financial Institutions first disburse the Central subsidy to the industrial units and later on calim reimbursement from the Central Government. The following amounts have been reimbursed to Tamil Nadu during the last 3 years:—

(Rs. in crores)

1983-83	7.29
1984-85	9.26
1985-86	10.69

Tamil Nadu tops the list in availing of Central Investment Subsidy since the introduction of the scheme in 1971. A total amount of Rs. 49.13 crores has been disbursed to the State so far.

The Central Investments are primarily in large industrial projects of a basic character. The location of such projects has, therefore, to be decided on broad techno-economic considerations. It has been the policy of the Government that subject to these considerations, comparatively backward regions are given preference in the location of Central projects. No proopsal to set up any heavy engineering or other public sector units in Tamil Nadu is under the consideration of the Department of Public Enterprises during the 7th Five Year Plan.